

February 10, 2009

NOTICE OF 2009 ASSESSMENT RATE FOR THE MARKETING ORDER FOR PROCESSING STRAWBERRIES

TO THE STRAWBERRY PROCESSOR ADDRESSED:

Upon recommendation of the Processing Strawberry Advisory Board, the Department of Food and Agriculture has established the 2009 assessment rate of one and one-quarter cents (\$0.0125) per fourteen pounds of strawberries under the Marketing Order for Processing Strawberries. The assessment applies to all strawberries received by processors. This year's rate of assessment is one quarter of one cent higher than the rate that was in effect for 2008. The Board recommended this assessment rate due to the fact that the cash position to start this season was below what is required. Copies of the Department's Order making the assessment rate effective are available upon request.

Assessments should be remitted directly to the Processing Strawberry Advisory Board office. The Board will provide assessment forms and instructions. For further information regarding this matter, please contact Roger Wyant, Manager, Processing Strawberry Advisory Board, P. O. Box 929, Watsonville, California 95077, telephone (831) 724-5454. You may also contact Glenn Yost at this office.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Branch Chief Marketing Branch

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